

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the status of the claims to that as indicated below:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient, comprising:

a drilling element having a spinous shape and a truncated cone with an outer surface line that is smooth and encloses an angle of no more than several degrees with an axis of said truncated cone; and,

a handle at an angle to said axis of said truncated cone with said spinous shape of said drill element enclosing an angle with said handle.

13. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said drilling element further comprises:

an additional truncated cone coaxially contiguous with said truncated cone, said additional truncated cone having a top surface that faces a base surface of said truncated cone with said top surface of said additional truncated cone having a larger diameter than a diameter of said base surface of said truncated cone.

14. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said truncated cone terminates in a region of its top surface by an additional surface that is rotationally symmetrical relative

to said axis of said truncated cone and is concave and forms a comparatively sharp cutting edge with a circumferential surface of said truncated cone.

15. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said truncated cone terminates in a region of its top surface by an additional surface that is rotationally symmetrical relative to said axis of said truncated cone and convex.

16. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said angle of said handle to said axis of said truncated cone is approximately  $70^{\circ}$ .

17. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said angle of said handle to said axis of said truncated cone is approximately  $80^{\circ}$ .

18. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said angle of said handle to said axis of said truncated cone is approximately  $90^{\circ}$ .

19. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said angle of said handle relative to said axis of said truncated cone is approximately  $100^{\circ}$ .

20. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, further comprising means for adjusting said angle of said handle relative to said axis of said truncated cone.

21. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, wherein said handle is detachably fixed to said drilling element.

22. (previously presented) The surgical instrument for preparing implant beds in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 12, further comprising markings on a circumferential surface of said truncated cone for indicating distance to an end of said surgical instrument that lies in close proximity of a top surface of said truncated cone.

23. (currently amended) A kit of surgical instruments, comprising:

a plurality of surgical instruments with each surgical instrument of said kit of surgical instruments including:

a drilling element having a spinous shape and truncated cone with an outer surface line that is smooth and encloses an angle of no more than several degrees with an axis of said truncated cone; and,

a handle at an angle to said axis of said truncated cone with said spinous shape of said drill element enclosing an angle with said handle,

said plurality of surgical instruments forming a sequence of graded diameters of said truncated cone as to each said surgical instrument of said plurality of surgical instruments with each immediately succeeding said surgical instrument in said sequence having a top

surface diameter of said truncated cone that is smaller than, or equal to, a base surface diameter of an immediately preceding said surgical instrument in said sequence.

24. (previously presented) The kit of surgical instruments according to Claim 23, wherein at least one said surgical instrument of said plurality of surgical instruments includes means for adjusting said angle of said handle relative to said axis of said truncated cone.

25. (previously presented) The kit of surgical instruments according to Claim 23, wherein each said surgical instrument of said plurality of surgical instruments has a fixed and predetermined angle between said angle of said handle relative to said axis of said truncated cone, with each said fixed and predetermined angle being graded as a sequence within said plurality of predetermined surgical instruments.

26. (previously presented) The kit of surgical instruments according to Claim 25, wherein said plurality of surgical instruments comprises at least four said surgical instruments with a first said surgical instrument having said angle of said handle relative to said axis of said truncated cone of approximately  $70^{\circ}$ , a second said surgical instrument having said angle of approximately  $80^{\circ}$ , a third said surgical instrument having said angle of approximately  $90^{\circ}$  and a fourth said surgical instrument having said angle of approximately  $100^{\circ}$ , said at least four surgical instruments comprising at least a portion of said sequence.

27. (previously presented) A method for bone-conserving production of an implant bed in a lower jaw of a patient using spiral drills with internal cooling utilizing a surgical instrument comprising:

a drilling element having a truncated cone with an outer surface line that is smooth and encloses an angle of no more than several degrees with an axis of said truncated cone; and,

a handle at an angle to said axis of said truncated cone,  
said method comprising the steps of:

determining a direction and depth of an implantation with a pilot borehole via a first spiral drill;

boring the patient's corticalis via a second spiral drill of larger diameter than a diameter said first spiral drill; and,

widening an opening present in the patient's spongiosa via at least one said surgical instrument.

28. (previously presented) The method for bone-conserving production of an implant bed in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 27, further comprising the step of:

repeating said boring step and said widening step using an additional said surgical instrument having a truncated cone of a larger diameter than said surgical instrument previously utilized.

29. (currently amended) The method for bone-conserving production of an implant bed in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 28, further comprising the step of:

carrying out a vertical osteotomy distally or ~~mesially~~ medially upwards prior to said widening step of said repeating step.

30. (currently amended) The method for bone-conserving production of an implant bed in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 27, further comprising the step of:

carrying out a vertical osteotomy distally or ~~mesially~~ medially upwards prior to said widening step.

31. (previously presented) The method for bone-conserving production of an implant bed in a lower jaw of a patient according to Claim 27, wherein for an implantation in a region of a patient's molars, positions 6 or 7, said surgical instrument has said handle at said angle to said axis of said truncated cone through  $70^{\circ}$ , for an implantation in a region of a patient's premolars, said surgical instrument has said handle at said angle to said axis of said truncated cone of through  $80^{\circ}$ , and for an implantation in a region of a patient's anterior teeth or incisors, said surgical instrument has said handle at said angle to said axis of said truncated cone through  $90^{\circ}$ .